



Department of Homeland Security IAIP Directorate Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 11 May 2005

Current
Nationwide
Threat Level is

ELEVATED
SIGNIFICANT RISK OF
TERRORIST ATTACKS

[For info click here](http://www.dhs.gov/)
<http://www.dhs.gov/>

Daily Highlights

- The Associated Press writes that according to a newly released report, liquefied natural gas tankers should be considered vulnerable to attack. (See item [1](#))
- The Brownsville Herald reports that Brazilians, Central Americans, and others could soon overtake Mexican nationals as the largest group of undocumented immigrants entering the United States through the Rio Grande Valley. (See item [6](#))
- The Associated Press reports the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has more than doubled its network for sharing health care information, better enabling it to respond to and track infectious disease and bioterror outbreaks. (See item [18](#))

DHS/IAIP Update *Fast Jump*

Production Industries: [Energy](#); [Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials](#); [Defense Industrial Base](#)
Service Industries: [Banking and Finance](#); [Transportation and Border Security](#); [Postal and Shipping](#)
Sustenance and Health: [Agriculture](#); [Food](#); [Water](#); [Public Health](#)
Federal and State: [Government](#); [Emergency Services](#)
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Energy Sector

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: Elevated, Cyber: Elevated

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://esisac.com>]

1. *May 10, Associated Press* — **Liquefied natural gas tankers called vulnerable to attack.**
Determined and skilled terrorists would probably be able to get around security measures meant to prevent an attack on tankers carrying liquefied natural gas (LNG) up Narragansett Bay, according to a report released Monday, May 9. The report, prepared by counterterrorism expert Richard Clarke at the request of Rhode Island Attorney General Patrick Lynch, an opponent of expanding LNG on the bay, depicts potentially harrowing consequences from an attack — from

mass casualties to devastating the local economy. The report repeats much of what was concluded in a government study on LNG safety that said a terrorist attack could tear a huge hole into a tanker, unleashing a spill and intense fire that would cause major injuries and burn buildings as far as one-third of a mile away. The earlier study by Sandia National Laboratory also said the chance of an intentional spill could be reduced greatly with a halo of security for arriving tankers, such as a Coast Guard escort. Clarke's report suggests that enhanced security measures would not significantly reduce risks.

Security Risk Management Analysis: http://www.riag.state.ri.us/LNG_Good%20Harbor2.pdf

Sandia report, Guidance on risk analysis and safety implications of a large liquefied natural gas spill over water: http://www.fossil.energy.gov/programs/oilgas/storage/lng/sandia_lng_1204.pdf

Source: http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2005/05/10/lng_tankers_called_vulnerable_to_attack/

2. *May 10, Dow Jones Newswires* — **ConocoPhillips officials confirm units down at refinery.** A power failure at ConocoPhillips' 250,000 barrel-a-day Belle Chasse, LA, refinery shut down portions of the refinery earlier Tuesday, May 10, said company spokesperson Laura Dilley. The was no restart timing for the affected units, she added. The investigation into the cause of the power failure continued, as does air quality monitoring which has, so far, shown no impact on the environment. According to the local power provider, Entergy Corp., a 115-KV transmission line running 25 miles from Port Nickel to Carlisle went out at 7:04 a.m. EDT Tuesday.

Source: http://money.iwon.com/jsp/nw/nwdt_rt_top.jsp?cat=TOPBIZ&src=704&feed=dji§ion=news&news_id=dji-00079420050510&date=20050510&alias=/alias/money/cm/nw

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Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials Sector

Nothing to report.

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

Nothing to report.

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Banking and Finance Sector

Nothing to report.

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Transportation and Border Security Sector

3. *May 10, Associated Press* — **United heads to bankruptcy court over pensions.** Still unprofitable after 29 months in bankruptcy, United Airlines is headed for a courtroom showdown with its labor unions over its most radical attempt yet to slash costs. The target this time: employee pensions. The carrier sought a judge's approval Tuesday, May 10, in federal bankruptcy court of its plan to have the government's pension insurer take over its defined-benefit plans, resulting in the largest-ever U.S. pension default. United workers would lose about a quarter of their total pensions if they are shifted to the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corp. United's effort to dump its pensions is being watched closely by competitors struggling without the benefit of bankruptcy court protection. High fuel costs, low fares and stiff competition have caused network carriers to lose tens of billions of dollars in recent years. A successful move by United to get out from under its pension obligations, following a step taken successfully by bankrupt US Airways Group in February, would clear the way for similar actions elsewhere.

Source: http://www.usatoday.com/travel/news/2005-05-10-united-pensions_x.htm

4. *May 10, USA TODAY* — **CEO: Delta can avoid Chapter 11 filing this year.** Delta Air Lines CEO Gerald Grinstein said Monday, May 9, that he has no plans to close an airport hub or to ask the pilots union for more pay cuts to avert a possible bankruptcy filing later this year. Delta, the country's No. 3 carrier, lost \$1.1 billion last quarter after losing an industry record \$5.2 billion in 2004. The airline has warned that a cash crunch late this year might force a Chapter 11 filing. But in an interview with USA TODAY, Grinstein said no drastic new cost cuts are necessary. "Our plan is to make structural changes to the airline, rather than temporary changes," he said. Delta narrowly averted a bankruptcy filing late last year by negotiating \$1 billion a year in cuts from its pilots union, borrowing to raise cash and other steps. It recently closed its hub at Dallas/Fort Worth airport and is cutting 7,000 jobs companywide. It has simplified its fares and reorganized the schedule at its giant Atlanta hub airport to get more flights out of the same planes. To raise cash, it's considering selling assets such as one or both of its wholly owned regional carriers, Cincinnati-based Comair and Atlanta-based Atlantic Southeast.

Source: http://www.usatoday.com/travel/flights/2005-05-09-delta-usat_x.htm

5. *May 10, Transportation Security Administration* — **National explosives detection canine team.** The latest class of explosives detection canine teams is slated to graduate in late May 2005, from the Explosives Detection Canine Handler Course at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, TX. After graduation, they will patrol airports from Honolulu to Washington, DC, and provide a critical layer of security to the nation's transportation systems. The Transportation Security Administration's National Explosives Detection Canine Team Program prepares dogs and handlers to serve on the front lines of America's War on Terror. These very effective, mobile teams can quickly locate and identify dangerous materials that may present a threat to transportation systems. Just as important, they can quickly rule out the presence of dangerous materials in unattended packages, structures or vehicles, allowing the free and efficient flow of commerce. After dog and handler are paired up, the new team completes a rigorous 10-week course to learn to locate and identify a wide variety of dangerous materials while working as an effective unit. This training includes search techniques for aircraft, baggage, vehicles and transportation structures, as well as procedures for identifying dangerous materials and "alerting" or letting the handler know when these materials are present.

Source: http://www.tsa.gov/public/display?theme=40&content=090005198_01245af

6. *May 10, Brownsville Herald (TX)* — **Non–Mexican immigrants pour into Valley.** Brazilians, Central Americans and others could overtake Mexican nationals as the largest group of undocumented immigrants entering the United States through the Rio Grande Valley. Although some federal authorities said the demographic shift has already happened, figures show the number of OTM (Other Than Mexicans) immigrants detained in South Texas has increased in the last two years but remains slightly behind the number of Mexican nationals. Border Patrol officials said the number of OTMs detained in the Valley could overtake undocumented Mexican immigrants in the next few months or sometime in the next fiscal year. U.S. Consul John Naland in Matamoros, Mexico, says the shift has already happened. Naland said, "There has been a sharp increase in OTMs who are transiting Mexico and illegally entering into the United States." Naland said a growing number of Brazilians and other foreign nationals are using lax visa requirements for travel into Mexico as a "trampoline" to illegally enter the United States. Brazil is one of 45 countries whose citizens are not required to present a passport to enter Mexico. Although the State Department would prefer that Mexico tighten its immigration laws, Naland said the choice is ultimately up to the Mexican government.

Source: http://www.valleystar.com/localnews_more.php?id=57856_0_19_0_M

7. *May 10, KOVA TV (AZ)* — **Group offers maps in Mexico to border crossers.** A group that maintains water stations for illegal immigrants crossing the desert plans to distribute maps in Mexico warning about the dangers of crossing the border. Humane Borders plans to post about 100 maps in Altar, Mexico, a popular staging area for immigrants planning on crossing illegally into the United States. The maps will show the locations of water stations, recent deaths, and U.S. Border Patrol rescue beacons, said the Rev. Robin Hoover, president of Humane Borders. But critics said the maps could give illegal immigrants a false sense of security. "We know for a fact smugglers are exploiting that, telling people there's plenty of water, encouraging people to enter in that area, and it really works against us in our deterrence mission," said Michael Nicley, head of the Border Patrol's Tucson sector. Arizona state Rep. Russell Pearce, an outspoken advocate for more deterrence measures against migrants, said Humane Borders is laying out a road map to aid illegal border crossers. "It may sound humanitarian, but the reality is they simply are promoting illegal activity," the Mesa Republican said. "It's a little disappointing to me. It's a felony to harbor, promote, encourage and assist ... folks to come to this country or remain in this country illegally."

Source: <http://kvoa.com/Global/story.asp?S=3324572>

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Postal and Shipping Sector

8. *May 10, United Parcel Service* — **Shipper to expand air freight network.** United Postal Service (UPS) on Tuesday, May 10, announced plans to construct five regional freight hubs at airports across the country. The regional facilities, when completed and brought on line next year, will support a main freight hub to be constructed in Louisville, KY, home to the company's main all–points air hub. The new facilities will be constructed in Ontario, CA, Rockford, IL, Dallas, TX, Philadelphia, PA, and Columbia, SC. The network will support customers with North American overnight, second–day and deferred air freight services. UPS anticipates spending about US\$24 million to build and equip the five new facilities, each of

which will be constructed solely to handle freight.

Source: http://ups.com/pressroom/corp/press_releases/press_release/0_1088.4561.00.html

9. *May 10, Contra Costa Times* — Cargo jet loses large pieces over Danville neighborhood.

Airplane pieces from a FedEx jet fell from the sky over Danville, CA, Monday, May 9, surprising residents and causing damages to at least one house, but injuring no one. FedEx spokesperson Sally Davenport said the flight from Oakland landed safely as scheduled in Dallas–Fort Worth with two pilots and an assortment of packages aboard. Federal Aviation Administration spokesperson Donn Walker said the parts apparently came from the MD11's No. 2 engine thrust reverser. He said the parts' absence did not significantly threaten the flight. The debris will be turned over to FedEx, the FAA and the National Transportation Safety Board for their investigation.

Source: http://www.mercurynews.com/mld/mercurynews/news/breaking_news/11611557.htm

10. *April 08, Government Accountability Office* — GAO–05–261: U.S. Postal Service: The Service's Strategy for Realigning Its Mail Processing Infrastructure Lacks Clarity, Criteria, and Accountability (Report).

With declining mail volumes, increasing compensation costs, and a more competitive marketplace, the need for the U.S. Postal Service (USPS) to increase efficiency and reduce expenses is a matter of increasing importance and concern. According to the USPS, one area where it can become more efficient is in its mail processing and distribution infrastructure. The objectives of this report are to (1) describe major business and demographic changes and their effect on the USPS's mail processing and distribution infrastructure; (2) describe what actions the USPS is taking in response to these changes, and what challenges exist; and (3) discuss the USPS's strategy for realigning its infrastructure. To enhance the USPS's transparency of its decisions related to realigning its infrastructure, the Postmaster General should establish a set of criteria for evaluating realignment decisions and a mechanism for informing stakeholders as decisions are made. To enhance accountability for these decisions, the Postmaster General should develop a process for implementing these decisions that includes evaluating and measuring the results, as well as the actual costs and savings resulting from the decisions.

Highlights: <http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d05261high.pdf>

Source: <http://www.gao.gov/docsearch/abstract.php?rptno=GAO-05-261>

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Agriculture Sector

11. *May 10, USAgNet* — Letter claims cattle disease released in New Zealand. A threatening letter delivered to Prime Minister Helen Clark's office on Tuesday, May 10, said a vial of foot–and–mouth disease was released Monday among stock on Waiheke Island, a small farming community near the northern city of Auckland. Police said a ransom demand was included in the letter along with a demand for a change in the nation's taxation policy. Senior Agriculture Ministry official Barry O'Neil said the letter was "probably a hoax, but is being taken very seriously." New Zealand has never had a confirmed case of foot and mouth, but if the disease were to reach this country it would be a devastating blow to the country's agriculture–dependent economy.

Source: http://www.wisconsinagconnection.com/story-national.cfm?Id=4_85&yr=2005

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Food Sector

12. *May 10, Associated Press* — **Maryland researchers predict strong year for fish–threatening algae in Chesapeake Bay.** State researchers in Maryland predicted Monday, May 9, that this summer could rank among the five worst in 20 years for algae blooms that threaten fish and other marine life in Chesapeake Bay. Scientists and ecologists believe a 10–mile–wide algae bloom on the Potomac River could begin in early June and last for two and a half months. The predicted bloom appears about halfway up the river, which empties into Chesapeake Bay. Algae blooms begin as the Potomac warms, and phytoplankton begins feasting on toxic nitrogen and phosphorus that wash away from sewage pipes, streets and farm fields. As it feeds, the algae blooms into a sprawling shield that suffocates the water and marine life. It is believed to be the first time scientists have tried to predict how the algae blooms will behave.

Maryland Department of Natural Resources: http://www.dnr.state.md.us/sw_index_flash.asp

Source: <http://abcnews.go.com/Technology/wireStory?id=743621>

13. *May 09, U.S. Department of Agriculture* — **Oman reopens market for U.S. beef products.** Officials in the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) on Monday, May 9, announced that Oman has lifted its ban on all U.S. beef and beef product imports. In 2003, the United States exported more than \$61,000 worth of beef and beef products to Oman. It is the second country in the Middle East region to reopen its market to U.S. beef. Egypt announced the reopening of its market to U.S. beef in March. In 2003, the United States exported approximately \$7.5 billion worth of beef, beef products, cattle and other ruminants and ruminant by–products. After the discovery of a BSE–infected cow in the United States, \$4.8 billion worth of beef exports were banned. To date, USDA estimates that it has recovered \$1.9 billion of the banned amount.

Source: <http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/!ut/p/s.7.0.A/7.0.1OB?contentonly=true&contentid=2005/05/0156.xml>

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Water Sector

14. *May 09, Reno Gazette–Journal (NV)* — **Nevada officials discuss plans to handle water–supply threats.** Fires, floods, earthquakes, terrorism and other risks could endanger the water system serving more than 81,000 homes and businesses across the greater Reno–Sparks, Nevada area. The Truckee Meadows Water Authority has prepared a plan to address potential disasters and discussed its strategy with the public Monday, May 9. “I think we’re well prepared. We’ve been getting prepared for quite a few years,” said Chet Malewski, emergency planning coordinator for the authority. Since last summer, the utility has worked with local governments and businesses — including Sierra Pacific Power, the former owner of the water system — in preparing a disaster preparedness plan as required by the federal government. Officials say it’s unlikely the utility’s water system would be targeted by international terrorists, but domestic terrorists could pose a threat. Even more likely, officials said, is that a

disgruntled employee or a vandal could attempt to damage the water system. Possible vulnerabilities to sabotage or vandalism have been identified, but must remain confidential for security reasons, Malewski said. The utility has taken steps to improve security, including installation of intrusion alarms at water storage tanks and motion detectors at Truckee River reservoirs.

Truckee Meadows Water Authority Website: <http://www.tmh2o.com/>

Source: http://www.rgj.com/news/stories/html/2005/05/09/99105.php?sp=s:rgj.com&sch=LocalNews&sp1=rgj&sp2=News&sp3=Local+News&sp5=RGJ.com&sp6=news&sp7=local_news

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Public Health Sector

15. *May 10, Washington Post* — CDC officials recommend two new ingredients to mitigate West Nile risk. Officials at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recently recommended two new ingredients as mosquito repellents, picaridin and oil of lemon eucalyptus, marking the first time the agency has suggested anything other than the chemical DEET for mosquito bite prevention. DEET, in use for more than 40 years, has long been the standard in mosquito protection, but many Americans have not been buying products that contain the chemical. This is due partly to lingering consumer fears — largely unwarranted, the agency says — about the safety of DEET. Only 40 percent of Americans report regularly using mosquito repellents, says the CDC — even though West Nile Virus has been found in 47 of the 48 continental states and the District of Columbia. CDC officials said they chose to act now because recent studies have reassured them of the safety and effectiveness of the two ingredients. Agency scientists reviewed existing literature and concluded there was sufficient evidence to safely recommend picaridin, a chemical used in other countries and sold in one U.S. product, and oil of lemon eucalyptus, a natural ingredient found in various lotions and sprays.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2005/05/09/AR2005050901062.html>

16. *May 10, Institute of Ecosystem Studies* — Employing ecology to predict and manage emerging infectious diseases. Recently, over 80 distinguished scientists from around the world convened at the Institute of Ecosystem Studies (IES) to participate in a conference on infectious disease ecology. From West Nile Virus and Ebola to Sudden Oak Death, emerging infectious diseases threaten human health, wildlife, livestock, agriculture, and forests. Once established, infectious diseases are economic and ecological burdens that can cause, in some cases, irreversible damage. An underlying theme throughout the conference was the need to incorporate ecological methods into traditional epidemiological studies. Traditionally, infectious disease has been viewed as a problem that is best addressed through the use of vaccines or drugs. The diverse group of experts attending the conference explored the role of disease within a big-picture framework— considering the ecological context in which disease epidemics arise, and the consequences of disease in ecological systems. The conference also explored how ecological methods and perspectives could be used to advance our ability to both manage and predict infectious diseases in humans, wildlife, natural plant communities and agriculture.

Conference information: <http://www.ecostudies.org/cary11/index.html>

Source: <http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2005/05/050509210151.ht m>

17. *May 09, Associated Press* — Workers exposed to infectious strain of bacteria at lab, OSHA says. Federal investigators found serious violations of workplace safety standards at the Boston Medical Center lab where three workers were exposed to a highly infectious strain of bacteria, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) said Monday, May 9. Two workers became ill last May after they handled the tularemia bacterium at the Evans Biomedical Research Center. However, the incident wasn't publicly disclosed until after another worker was exposed in September. All three recovered fully after being treated with antibiotics. Following a three-month investigation, OSHA concluded that the Boston University (BU)-affiliated hospital failed to ensure that workers were wearing gloves and protective glasses while they handled the bacteria, also known as rabbit fever. The agency is calling for BU and the medical center to pay a proposed fine of \$8,100. The tularemia exposures were seized on by opponents of the high-security biomedical research facility BU is seeking to build in Boston's South End. That lab will work with the world's most dangerous pathogens, including ebola and plague. However, BU officials have said the infection of workers in a lower-security Evans lab is not relevant to the public debate over the proposed Biosafety Level 4 facility.

Source: <http://www.thebostonchannel.com/news/4467128/detail.html?rss =bos&psp=news>

18. *May 09, Associated Press* — CDC has vastly expanded network to handle outbreaks according to director. The director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) said the agency has more than doubled its network for sharing health care information, better enabling it to respond to and track infectious disease and bioterror outbreaks. "We have a moral imperative to take these steps because the survival of the world is in our hands," Dr. Julie Gerberding told the audience at the Public Health Conference for Utah on Monday, May 9. A network of more than 140 federal, state, environmental, veterinary, local and international laboratories are able to share information six years after a CDC expansion initiative. The goal of the system is to spot epidemics quickly and end them as soon as possible. The Laboratory Response Network conducted more than one million separate tests during the anthrax scare in 2001, and developed tests needed to identify the DNA structure of the virus that causes severe acute respiratory syndrome. Gerberding said those examples demonstrated how the government's new, decentralized approach to public health -- taking in information from field and satellite offices to distribute responsibility and resources -- could be effective.

Source: <http://www.macon.com/mld/macon/news/local/11603846.htm>

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Government Sector

19. *May 10, Associated Press* — Governors protest new hassles, costs of driver's licenses. There is concern among some states that they'll get stuck with a large tab to pay for implementing the new rules and that getting a driver's license will become a bigger headache for law-abiding residents. "Governors are looking at all their options," said Arkansas Governor Mike Huckabee, vice chairman of the National Governors Association. States are concerned that the new rules might force applicants to make more than one trip to motor vehicle departments: once to

provide documents such as birth certificates that states must verify and a second time to pick up the license. "What passed is something that will be an enormous amount of work, and it's questionable what it's going to yield," said Democrat Matt Dunlap, Maine's secretary of state. The immigration requirements were attached to an \$82 billion spending package for military operations and construction in Iraq and Afghanistan that the House passed last week. The Senate is expected to vote this week and send the bill to President George W. Bush.

Source: <http://www.columbiatribune.com/2005/May/20050510News011.asp>

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Emergency Services Sector

20. *May 10, Associated Press* — Exercise to test Michigan's ability to respond to terrorist acts.

Michigan authorities' response to terrorist acts will be tested this week. The scenarios include the destruction of the International Bridge at Sault Sainte Marie, threats to blow up an oil tanker in the Detroit River, and a chemical attack at Comerica Park. The goal is to fine-tune communication and coordination among various federal, state and local agencies, and emergency responders including hospitals. Another exercise will simulate the firing of a surface-to-air missile at an airplane at Detroit Metropolitan Airport.

Source: <http://www.woodtv.com/Global/story.asp?S=3322471&nav=0RceZesN>

21. *May 10, CBS New York* — Counterfeit badge operation shut down.

A resident of the Bronx in New York City has been arrested on federal charges for sending more than a thousand fake law enforcement badges through the mail. More than 1300 counterfeit badges from more than 35 agencies, including fake air marshal badges, were found. Agents from the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) made the seizure at the apartment of Sergio Khorosh, who on a Website is identified as the owner of Pro Police products, in the Bronx. He is being charged with three counts including unlawful transportation of counterfeit police badges and illegal weapons possession. Also seized were three high caliber assault weapons, some smaller firearms, gun scopes, police scanners, radios, police jackets and vests and \$16,000 dollars in cash and what police believe is cocaine and marijuana. Those with information about Khorash or the fake badges are encouraged to call the ICE tip line: 866-DHS-2-I-C-E.

Source: http://cbsnewyork.com/topstories/topstoriesny_story_13012112_9.html

22. *May 09, Newsday (NY)* — Mock terror drill tests fire department response.

Two special teams of fire officials in New York City spent several hours Monday, May 9, acting out their response to a potential terrorist truck bombing of the Jamaica transit hub in Queens. The teams of 12 white-shirted officers were kept in separate rooms at the Fire Department Training Academy on Randalls Island and were fed hypothetical information by telephone and hand-held radio. Shortly after the exercise began at 9 a.m., the operations desk reported to the teams that a woman trapped somewhere on an E train had used her cell phone to call for help. An officer in another part of the room tracked responding vehicles while making sure there were enough other units available to handle another emergency. By the end of the exercise at 2 p.m., the teams had dispatched hundreds of emergency workers, fire vehicles, ambulances, dump trucks and other equipment to the scene to handle the incident, which had 591

"casualties." The Fire Department hopes to have the teams, called Incident Management Teams,

designated as national responders to urban terror disasters anywhere in the country.

Source: <http://www.nynewsday.com/news/local/queens/nyc-dril0510.0.1544134.story?coll=nyc-manheadlines-queens>

23. *May 08, Washington Post* — **Simulated attacks in New Mexico prepare for the worst.** Last fall, the New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology (better known as New Mexico Tech) used a \$5 million grant from the Department of Homeland Security to purchase the 640-acre township of Playas. It is now part of a network of academic institutions that specialize in training emergency workers to respond to various threats. New Mexico specializes in explosives. Letter bombs, pipe bombs, car bombs and the improvised explosive devices placed on roadways are among the easiest of weapons for terrorist to create. That is why many believe they have been so difficult to control in Iraq and are the most likely to make their way to the United States first. When New Mexico Tech moved in, it closed the town to newcomers. Existing families were relocated to three streets on the eastern side of town. They pay about \$375 a month in rent, depending on their home's size, condition and location.
- Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2005/05/07/AR2005050700671.html>

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Information Technology and Telecommunications Sector

24. *May 10, Microsoft* — **Microsoft Security Bulletin MS05-024: Vulnerability in Web View Could Allow Remote Code Execution.** A remote code execution vulnerability exists in the way that Web View in Windows Explorer handles certain HTML characters in preview fields. By persuading a user to preview a malicious file, an attacker could execute arbitrary code in the context of the logged on user. This vulnerability affects Microsoft Windows 2000, Windows 98, Windows 98 SE, and Windows ME. Updates available through Source link below.
- Source: <http://www.microsoft.com/technet/security/Bulletin/MS05-024.mspx>
25. *May 09, FrSIRT* — **IPsec ESP configurations information disclosure vulnerability.** Three vulnerabilities were identified in certain configurations of IPsec, which may be exploited by attackers to disclose sensitive information. These attacks are possible when IPsec uses Encapsulating Security Payload (ESP) in tunnel mode with confidentiality only, or with integrity protection being provided by AH or a higher layer protocol. A remote attacker that is able to intercept and modify IPsec and ICMP communications between security gateways, could exploit this vulnerability and perform "Destination Address Rewriting", "IP Options modification", and "Protocol Field modification" attacks, which will cause the plaintext version of the IPsec communications between the protocols to be disclosed. See Source link for suggested workarounds.
- Source: <http://www.frstirt.com/english/advisories/2005/0507>
26. *May 09, Secunia* — **PHP Advanced Transfer Manager file upload vulnerability.** A vulnerability has been reported in PHP Advanced Transfer Manager, which potentially can be exploited by malicious people to compromise a vulnerable system. A remote user can authenticate to the system, upload a PHP file with the '.ns' extension, and then have the Web

server execute the file. The PHP code, including operating system commands, will run with the privileges of the target Web service. There is no solution at this time.

Source: <http://secunia.com/advisories/15279/>

27. May 09, Federal Computer Week — National Institute of Standards and Technology releases report on cryptography keys. National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) officials have some advice for managing cryptographic keys. NIST recently released a draft document, "Draft Special Publication 800–57: Recommendation for Key Management," that is now available on the agency's Website for public review and comment. Poorly managed keys can easily compromise even the strongest cryptographic algorithms, according to the document written for systems administrators and software developers. The two–part document classifies cryptographic key types, their uses and the methods for protecting each type.

Part 1: <http://csrc.nist.gov/publications/drafts/draft-800-57-Part1-April2005.pdf>

Part 2: <http://csrc.nist.gov/publications/drafts/draft-800-57-Part2-April2005.pdf>

Source: <http://www.fcw.com/article88818-05-09-05-Web>

Internet Alert Dashboard

DHS/US–CERT Watch Synopsis

Over the preceding 24 hours, there has been no cyber activity which constitutes an unusual and significant threat to Homeland Security, National Security, the Internet, or the Nation's critical infrastructures.

US–CERT Operations Center Synopsis: Apple has released a security patch to correct twenty vulnerabilities affecting Mac OS X. These flaws could be exploited by remote or local attackers to execute arbitrary commands, cause a denial of service or obtain elevated privileges.

Current Port Attacks

Top 10 Target Ports	445 (microsoft–ds), 6881 (bittorrent), 135 (epmap), 20485 (----), 1026 (----), 139 (netbios–ssn), 1025 (----), 6346 (gnutella–svc), 50000 (SubSARI), 1433 (ms–sql–s)
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Source: <http://isc.incidents.org/top10.html>; Internet Storm Center

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US–CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Website: www.us-cert.gov.

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Website: <https://www.it-isac.org/>.

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Commercial Facilities/Real Estate, Monument & Icons Sector

Nothing to report.

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General Sector

Nothing to report.

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DHS/IAIP Products & Contact Information

The Department of Homeland Security's Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection (IAIP) serves as a national critical infrastructure threat assessment, warning, vulnerability entity. The IAIP provides a range of bulletins and advisories of interest to information system security and professionals and those involved in protecting public and private infrastructures:

[DHS/IAIP Daily Open Source Infrastructure Reports](#) – The DHS/IAIP Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is a daily [Monday through Friday] summary of open–source published information concerning significant critical infrastructure issues. The DHS/IAIP Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is available on the Department of Homeland Security Website:

<http://www.dhs.gov/iaipdailyreport>

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